

HOUSE BILL NO. 694

INTRODUCED BY H. RASER

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT CREATING A STATE SPECIAL REVENUE ACCOUNT TO FUND VETERINARIANS PROVIDING LOW-COST AND NO-COST SPAY AND NEUTER SERVICES FOR CATS AND DOGS VIA DONATIONS MADE FOR THE PURCHASE OF SPECIAL LICENSE PLATES; CREATING A CAT AND DOG SPECIAL LICENSE PLATE; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

NEW SECTION. Section 1. Cat and dog special license plates -- use of proceeds. (1) The department of justice shall require an applicant for the special cat and dog license plates as provided in [section 2] to make a donation of \$20 to the department of agriculture upon initial issuance of the license plates and a donation of \$20 upon each annual renewal of the license plates.

(2) The donation provided for in subsection (1) must be paid to the county treasurer, who shall remit the entire amount to the department of revenue for deposit in the state special revenue account established in subsection (3).

(3) There is within the department of agriculture a cat and dog reproductive sterilization support state special revenue account. The department of agriculture shall establish criteria that Montana veterinarians and humane societies providing spay and neuter services are required to meet in order to receive proceeds from the account. The department shall grant the money in the account to Montana veterinarians and humane societies providing spay and neuter services at the request of qualifying veterinarians and humane societies on a first-come, first-served basis.

NEW SECTION. Section 2. Special plates for cat and dog sterilization programs. (1) (a) The owner of a motor vehicle subject to registration may apply for cat and dog special license plates.

(b) Subject to the provisions of 61-3-332 and except as otherwise provided in this chapter, special license plates issued pursuant to this section must be numbered in sets of two with a different number on each set and must be properly displayed as provided in 61-3-301.

(2) Upon application, after paying all applicable vehicle registration fees and special license plate fees

as provided in subsection (3), eligible owners may be issued one set of cat and dog special license plates as designed by the department of agriculture.

(3) An applicant for the special cat and dog license plates sponsored by the department of agriculture shall make a donation of \$20 to the account established in [section 1] upon initial issuance of the license plates and a donation of \$20 upon each annual renewal of the license plates. Money in the account must be used to fund grants administered by the department of agriculture to eligible Montana veterinarians and humane societies providing spay and neuter services as provided in [section 1].

NEW SECTION. Section 3. Codification instruction. (1) [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an integral part of Title 7, chapter 23, part 42, and the provisions of Title 7, chapter 23, part 42, apply to [section 1].

(2) [Section 2] is intended to be codified as an integral part of Title 61, chapter 3, part 4, and the provisions of Title 61, chapter 3, part 4, apply to [section 2].

NEW SECTION. Section 4. Effective date. [This act] is effective on passage and approval.

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